

## Gorbachev offers to scrap Asia missiles

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev said Wednesday Moscow would agree to remove all its medium-range missiles from Europe and Asia if the United States withdrew its nuclear weapons from Japan, South Korea and the Philippines. Speaking at a dinner for visiting Vietnamese leader Nguyen Van Linh, Mr. Gorbachev said the Soviet Union had often expressed its readiness for a deal under which both superpowers would eliminate all their medium-range missiles. "There would be no obstacles to such a solution if the United States removed its nuclear means in Japan, South Korea and the Philippines and also withdrew its aircraft-carrying fleet beyond agreed limits," Mr. Gorbachev said. "Mr. Gorbachev was responding to a demand from NATO defence ministers last week that the Soviet Union remove all its SS-20 missiles from Europe and Asia as part of a superpower deal on medium-range missiles. The superpowers had reached tentative agreement at their summit in Reykjavik last October on a deal under which they would eliminate their medium-range forces in Europe but keep 100 warheads each elsewhere."

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## King receives Sudanese cleric

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein on Tuesday received Ahmad Al Mahdi, an Islamic religious leader from Sudan. The audience was attended by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker.

## Hamzeh returns

AMMAN (Petra) — Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh returned home Tuesday after he chaired the 40th session of the World Health Organisation (WHO) meetings and visiting Poland for talks on bilateral cooperation. Dr. Hamzeh told Petra that the delegates to the conference praised Jordan for the achievements it has undertaken in the field of health services and child vaccination. He added that Jordan, together with some other Arab countries, outlined to the conference the deteriorating health services in the occupied Arab territories and urged the participants to exert pressures on the Israeli authorities to improve these conditions.

## SLA man killed in clash

TEL AVIV (R) — A member of an Israeli-backed militia was killed early Tuesday in a clash in Israel's self-declared "security zone" in southern Lebanon, sources said. But they said it was unclear if the militiaman from the "South Lebanon Army" was killed by guerrillas or in a clash with a fellow fighter in the village of Ainata just north of the Lebanon-Israel border.

## Pri premier freed from custody

SUVA (R) — Ousted Fiji Prime Minister Timoci Bavadra was freed early Tuesday after nearly six days in military custody and said the leaders of last Thursday's coup should be tried. "These people must be taken to court," Mr. Bavadra told a welcoming crowd of about 500 on the lawn of his "suburban home." "The law must play its part." Earlier, coup leader Lieutenant-Colonel Sitiveni Rabuka told his troops that he was ready to face a treason charge and prepared to die if necessary (See page 8).

## Iran-Ethiopia arms deal reported

ABUDHABI (R) — Iran signed an agreement with Ethiopia last month to buy old stocks of U.S. arms, ammunition and military spare parts, the United Arab Emirates daily Al-Ittihad reported Tuesday. Quoting diplomatic sources in London, it said the deal included fighter planes, tanks and guns, some of which were in working condition and others to be used for spare parts.

## Vienna starts case against WJC chief

VIENNA (R) — The Austrian judiciary has started proceedings to make World Jewish Congress (WJC) President Edgar Bronfman answer charges of slander against President Kurt Waldheim, a Justice Ministry spokesman said Tuesday. Mr. Bronfman said in Budapest this month he was convinced the Austrian head of state was "part and parcel of the Nazi killing machine".

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# U.S. ships ordered to shoot back if threatened in Gulf

Death toll put at 37 in attack on USS Stark

- Moscow urges Washington to scale down naval presence
- Reagan underlines need to end war

Combined agency dispatches

AMERICAN warships in the Gulf were on Tuesday under orders to shoot back if threatened by attack as Moscow called for the United States to reduce its naval presence in the region after a deadly Iraqi-missile attack on U.S. warship late Sunday.

The death toll on the stricken frigate USS Stark rose to 37 and the Pentagon ordered an inquiry into why the ship did not defend itself against the attack.

Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger told a Senate committee "we do not know why" the guided missile frigate, built in 1982 and carrying an array of state-of-the-art electronic warfare systems, did not attempt to protect itself when an Iraqi plane struck in the Gulf.

"That will be one of the first orders of business of the inquiry," Mr. Weinberger said.

He announced a naval board would arrive in Bahrain on Wednesday to begin its probe.

The crippled 3,585-ton Stark was towed to Bahrain Tuesday.

After high-level meetings in Washington on Monday, U.S. President Ronald Reagan

intend will be fired upon, unless they provide adequate notification of their intentions."

Mr. Weinberger, testifying before a Senate subcommittee, said the ship was carrying a total of 222 officers and sailors when it was attacked.

Of the 37 dead, he said, 24 have been identified and their families notified. The remaining 13 have not been identified. A Pentagon spokesman said earlier that 15 sailors had been washed overboard or were still trapped in the wreckage.

Mr. Weinberger said an attack was not expected and called it "a single horrible error on the part of the Iraqi pilot."

At least one French-made Exocet plane-to-ship missile blasted the vessel on Sunday night, igniting flash fires in forward compartments.

The incident dominated U.S. newspapers, with many headline-writers highlighting the ship being caught with its guard down on its assignment to keep Gulf shipping lanes open in the midst of the six-year-old war between Iraq and Iran.

Mr. Weinberger told the Senate committee at the start of a

(Continued on page 4)

## Beirut bombers said to be PSP men

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Syrian troops have arrested a Druze militia officer and eight aides in connection with a bombing spree, apparently aimed at undermining Syria's peacekeeping effort in west Beirut, a Syrian officer was quoted as saying on Tuesday.

However, three sticks of dynamite exploded in west Beirut overnight, bringing to at least 107 the number of "garbage bomb" attacks in the mainly Muslim western sector of the capital in nearly three months, police said.

The blasts came hours after Syria's military intelligence chief in Lebanon, Brigadier Gbazi Kanaan, announced that the mastermind of the bomb attacks had been arrested.

Police told Reuters the latest explosions caused no casualties. As in earlier attacks, the dynamite was thrown from a speeding car into piles of rubbish on street corners.

The independent daily An-Nahar newspaper identified the suspected leader of bombers as Iman Sheib, whose real name is Iman Saab. It said Mr. Saab was a security officer in the Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) of Druze leader Walid Jumblatt.

The newspaper quoted Brig. Kanaan as saying Mr. Saab and the eight other suspects were responsible for the "garbage" bombings across west Beirut since Feb. 22, when 7,500 Syrian soldiers deployed in the city's western sector to end militancy.

These bombings caused no casualties or major damage and Brig. Kanaan did not say if the group was behind three car bombings in which eight people were killed and 19 wounded in the same period.

However, a Lebanese security official said the cell was responsible for the small bombs.

Brig. Kanaan charged that Mr. Saab was acting under direct instructions from Jamal Karara, the PSP's security chief who goes by the code name of Abu Haitham. The PSP would not comment on the report.

## Witness says North knew he would be 'fall guy'

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — A courier for fired White House aide Oliver North said Tuesday Lieutenant-Colonel North had told him before he was sacked that he expected to be "the fall guy" in the Iran-contra scandal.

Robert Owen, a self-described "foot soldier" in the Nicaraguan "contra" rebels' fight against the Sandinista government, said Col. North was addressed by the code names "blood-and-guts" and "steelhammer" in the covert operation to keep the rebels in

casino and guns.

Col. North, then a National Security Council (NSC) aide, was fired last Nov. 25 when it was disclosed that some proceeds from the sales of U.S. arms to Iran had been diverted to the contras via Swiss bank accounts at a time when U.S. military aid to the rebels was banned by Congress.

Mr. Owen, testifying before a joint House of Representatives and Senate committee, said Tuesday that he had visited Col. North in his old executive office building, next door to the White House, last Nov. 24.

"He told me he was going to resign. He ... said he was going to be the fall guy," Mr. Owen said.

Mr. Owen, testifying before a joint House of Representatives and Senate committee, said Tuesday that he had visited Col. North in his old executive office building, next door to the White House, last Nov. 24.

He made a trip to New York during a bank holiday, and was told to go to a corner Chinese market, where he identified himself by a code word. The man he met rolled up his pant leg and pulled out a wad of \$100 bills, Mr. Owen said. He counted them and found \$9,500, which he brought back to Gen. Secord in Washington.

King Fahd indirectly portrayed the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) as an example of Arab unity.

"The GCC has achieved Arab unity in six years at a time when the Arab League failed to achieve similar solidarity in 50 years,"

He said Washington was committed to an open-door policy for foreign investment and added "any responsible" government should not feel threatened by U.S. action to freeze Iranian and Libyan assets.

He said total foreign investment in the U.S. including what he called direct and portfolio investment along with government deposits, had more than doubled by the end of 1986 from \$500 billion in 1980.

Mr. Secord and his deputy, Roy Hattersley, introduced their platform at the Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre in London.

Labour reiterated its pledge to cut the three million unemployed, 10.9 per cent of the labour force, by one million within two years. It said its social and welfare programme would cost £6 billion pounds (\$10 billion).

It stuck to its controversial pledge to scrap Britain's nuclear weapons and send back U.S. cruise missiles, but Mr. Kinnock said a Labour administration would not take action while the superpowers were negotiating arms reductions.

Mrs. Thatcher, flanked by the two-term



King Fahd Ibn Abdul Aziz

## Fahd says Gulf war seems to be nearing end

KUWAIT (R) — King Fahd Ibn Abdul Aziz of Saudi Arabia, in remarks published Tuesday, said the Iran-Iraq war seemed to be drawing to an end.

"It's (the war's) end seems to be approaching, but it is going through a fluctuating state," King Fahd told the Kuwait daily Al Seyassah. The newspaper did not indicate when the interview was given.

The Saudi monarch gave no hint of whether he expected the conflict, now well into its seventh year, to be decided on the warfront or brought to an end by diplomatic means.

Asked if Saudi contacts with Iran had achieved success he said: "Our contacts with them are like contacts between states. But we always remind them of the benefits of ending this war which has no reason to continue."

King Fahd, in answer to a question, said a meeting between Syrian President Hafez Al Assad and Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, longstanding political foes, would strengthen Arab unity.

"Needless to say, such a meeting would strengthen the influence of the Arab Nation and help it achieve more unity," he said.

The Kuwait news agency KUNA, quoting Arab diplomatic sources, reported Monday that the Iraqi and Syrian leaders would hold a summit soon, which it said was "expected to end almost a decade of bitter political rivalry."

No date or venue was given by KUNA, but it said officials from the two countries were expected to meet shortly to set the stage for the summit.

King Fahd reportedly early this month that the two leaders had secret talks in Jordan, preceded by a joint meeting with King Hussein and Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Abdullah. Neither Baghdad nor Damascus denied the report.

King Fahd described recent talks between the leaders of Algeria and Morocco, promoted by the Saudi monarch in a bid for Arab solidarity, as "a great Arab achievement." They were held in an atmosphere of respect and cordiality, he said.

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## Egypt calls for more positive U.S. stand on Mideast peace conference

CARO (R) — Egypt wants a more positive U.S. stand on an international peace conference to break the "vicious circle" in the Middle East, a top official says.

President Hosni Mubarak's political adviser, Osama Al Baz, also says Egypt still sees a Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) role in such a conference despite recent setbacks in relations between them.

In a rare, wide-ranging briefing for Western reporters Monday night, Dr. Baz said Middle East peace prospects were still alive.

"... These (prospects) would be enhanced if the United States takes a more definite position on the desirability of holding a peace conference because many parties are watching the U.S. position," Dr. Baz said.

## Reagan describes outcome of PNC session as negative

KUWAIT (Agencies) — U.S. President Ronald Reagan, in an interview published Tuesday, described the outcome of the latest session of the Palestine National Council (PNC) as negative for peace in the Middle East.

The decisions taken at the PNC meeting in Algiers last month, Mr. Reagan told the Kuwaiti daily Al Qabas, indicated a "negative and unrealistic" trend in efforts towards settling the Arab-Israeli conflict and restoring peace to the Middle East.

The PNC decided to curb contacts with Egypt and abrogated the Feb. 11, 1985 accord on political coordination with Jordan.

These two moves were seen as dealing severe blows to efforts towards convening an international conference on the Middle East under U.N. auspices.

Mr. Reagan reaffirmed Washington's stand that an international Middle East peace conference, proposed under the auspices of permanent members of the U.N. Security Council and to include all parties to the conflict, must quickly lead to direct talks.

"Such a conference must lead to immediate and direct negotiations" between Israel and the Arab side, he said.

He said the form of Palestinian representation was a matter to be decided by the parties concerned in the dispute. Israel refuses to negotiate with the PLO.

Mr. Reagan was quoted as saying there has been "significant progress" in recent weeks towards establishing negotiations, although he did not specify to what he was referring.

Mr. Reagan said the U.S. had extended over \$22 billion in economic and military aid to Egypt since 1974, and despite budget cuts had maintained its funding at \$2.3 billion for 1987.

He said Washington was committed to an open-door policy for foreign investment and added "any responsible" government should not feel threatened by U.S. action to freeze Iranian and Libyan assets.

He said total foreign investment in the U.S. including what he called direct and portfolio investment along with government deposits, had more than doubled by the end of 1986 from \$500 billion in 1980.

Mr. Secord, who accused Libya of involvement in December 1985 guerrilla attacks at Rome and Vienna airports, last year imposed a freeze on Libyan government assets in the U.S. and with U.S. banks abroad.

The previous administration of President Jimmy Carter froze Iranian assets after the 1979 American embassy siege in Tehran.

Mr. Reagan was quoted as saying by Al Qabas that the United States continued to support an end to fighting in Lebanon but recognised that no outside power, however well-intentioned, can be a substitute for efforts by the Lebanese themselves, nor can Lebanon's political problems be solved by force.

The court ordered election officials to answer charges by the right-wing Grand Alliance for Democracy (GAD) that the administration's landslide win was the result of vote manipulation on a grand scale.

The court stepped into the poll row as GAD leader, former Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile, edged close to winning one of the 24 seats in the new senate.

## Mahdi to form new government

KHARTOUM (R) — Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi was given permission Tuesday to form a new government by Sudan's Supreme Council, a five-man body acting as a collective head of state. The council said in a statement it had acceded to Mr. Mahdi's request that the cabinet be dismissed so he could form a new administration, the official Sudan News Agency (SUNA) reported. Mr. Mahdi invoked a constitutional clause on May 13, empowering him to ask the council to dismiss all cabinet members except himself, saying they had failed to resolve Sudan's economic problems. Mr.

## Hawke orders closure of Libyan mission

CANBERRA (R) — Australia ordered Tuesday the immediate closure of the Libyan People's Bureau and gave all Libyan diplomats 10 days to leave the country.

Prime Minister Bob Hawke told a news conference the government had taken the decision after careful consideration of what he described as the "destabilising role" of Libya in the South Pacific.

The move was not directly connected with the current civil unrest in Fiji following a military takeover last week, he said.

But he said there was a "broad conceptual inter-relationship between the issues involved."

Mr. Hawke also cited recent paramilitary training provided by Libya to dissident groups in the French territory of New Caledonia and the Indonesian provinces of Irian Jaya and East Timor.

He also accused Libya of being involved in divisive activities in Australia but did not give any details.

Officials said it was a reference to Libya's recent support for radical groups within the aboriginal community.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman said the Libyan mission, which had only two diplomats, had been established in Canberra for several years. The present secretary, Shaban Gashut, arrived in November 1984.

Australia has no mission in Tripoli but its embassy in Rome deals with Libya on diplomatic matters.

Mr. Hawke, who has been severely critical of what he termed Libya's "attempts to gain a foothold in the South Pacific," said last month there was no evidence that Libyan mission in Canberra was involved in subversive activities.

Libya established formal ties with the South Pacific island state

of Vanuatu last year but has yet to open a mission in Port Vila, the capital.

About a dozen members of Vanuatu's ruling Vanuatu Party visited Libya in the past few months, some undergoing anti-terrorist training.

Western diplomats said a handful of dissidents from New Caledonia and Irian Jaya and a group of trade unionists from the Solomon Islands had also visited Tripoli.

Earlier this month, Australian Foreign Minister Bill Hayden and New Zealand Prime Minister David Lange held a hastily arranged conference to discuss the Libyan issue.

Mr. Hawke said his government had voiced concern before about Libyan activities in the region.

"Some of these activities have been conducted openly, others, many others, with varying degrees of clandestinity. They have become more intense in the course of this year," he said.

He said New Caledonia, where indigenous Melanesian Kanaks seek independence from France, had the greatest potential for regional destabilisation.

"Libya has a legitimate interest in the region," Mr. Lange added, noting that Tripoli had a mission in Kuala Lumpur as well as Canberra.

Mr. Lange was asked then if Australia understood the region as well as New Zealand.

"I think that there are difficulties sometimes (in Australia). The larger the power, the harder it is — and that's the truth of it," he said.

Last month, aboriginal activist Michael Mansell created a furor

in Australia when he called on those attending a revolutionary conference in Libya to help aborigines fight for their rights.

Mansell said on his return that Col. Qadhafi would establish a separate aboriginal nation in Australia if the government continued to ignore aborigines.

In Wellington, Mr. Lange said his government did not intend to cut Libya's links with New Zealand.

Diplomats at the Canberra bureau are accredited to Wellington where there is no permanent Libyan mission.

Mr. Lange said in a statement: "It is not the current intention of the New Zealand government to terminate the existing accreditation of the Libyan People's Bureau to New Zealand," he said.

"No application or request for a bureau to be established in New Zealand has been received," Mr. Lange said.

New Zealand has distanced itself from Australian concern about relations between Libya and Vanuatu and Mr. Lange said on May 11 that Tripoli had a legitimate interest in the region.

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## Beirut building collapses; 5 killed

BEIRUT (R) — A block of flats collapsed mainly Muslim west Beirut Tuesday, killing five people and leaving six others still unaccounted for, police said.

They said a pregnant woman was one of the victims dragged from the rubble by scores of rescue teams working feverishly to find survivors.

The Shabaan Building collapsed at dawn in what residents said was a roll of thunder and a huge cloud of choking dust.

Initially, police attributed the incident to structural damage during Israel's invasion of Lebanon in 1982. Civil defence officials later told Reuters that activity at a nearby building site had undermined the four-storey Shabaan.

Ambulances sped to the Abu Shaker suburb while Syrian and Lebanese troops cordoned off the area to prevent crowds from hampering rescue operations.

Most Shabaan residents were asleep when their homes fell apart, witnesses said.

One woman, sobbing with grief, carried the picture of her niece, still missing hours after the building collapsed.

"Dear God," she cried. "This

is my niece, my only relative left on this earth."

Men shouted "Allab-O-Akbar" (God is Great) as rescuers pulled bodies, many of them still clad in pyjamas or nightgowns, from the pile of wreckage. One 18-year-old youth was found alive under the broken masonry and rushed to hospital.

"This is like an air raid or car bomb," said one elderly onlooker. "But we're not used to have our homes collapse over our heads for no apparent reason."

Beirut, with a population of nearly two million people, has been repeatedly hit by street battles and air raids over the past 12 years of civil war.

Separately on his return from a four-day visit to the United States, Peres told reporters: "Israel has always avoided discriminating between Arabs and Jews in as far as taxes and payments are concerned. It is an unfortunate and unnecessary decision that should be corrected."

The decision — backed by Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's Likud Bloc and opposed by Peres's Labour Party — imposed new strains on their shaky coalition government already divided over an international Middle East peace conference.

Arabs, who make up about 3,500 of the 60,000 students at government universities, boycotted classes in protest Monday. Hundreds of Jewish and Arab

## U.S. sailors 'had no warning' of Gulf attack

WIESBADEN, West Germany (Agencies) — Two American sailors injured in an Iraqi air attack in the Gulf were quoted Tuesday as saying they did not know they were in any danger until an explosion ripped their frigate.

The two arrived at the Rhein-Main Airbase close to Frankfurt early Tuesday and were taken to a U.S. hospital in nearby Wiesbaden which specialises in treating burns.

"All hell broke loose when the ship was hit. They (the sailors) just fell through a hole into the water."

"They did not know what hit them. They were on deck, then came a huge bang — then they fell through a huge hole," he told a news conference here.

Asked if he meant the men were not aware of the attack, he answered: "Yes sir, they heard no planes, no warning."

The ambassador said two badly wounded had been flown to West Germany and a further four less seriously hurt were recovering at a Bahrain military hospital.

About two dozen other crew members suffered minor injuries in the attack, he added.

All the men he spoke to were concerned about their families. Mr. Zakhem would not give full names of the injured but said two of them, named Mark and James, asked him to "call my mom."

The Stark on Monday night was still close to the point at which it was hit about 85 miles north east of Bahrain, with some of the crew still on board, the ambassador said.

Lebanese-born Zakhem was posted to Bahrain seven months ago. He told the newsmen he was aboard a U.S. navy ship in Bahrain port when the attack on the Stark took place.

He said two missiles struck home, one leaving a gash 10 to 15 feet (three to five metres) wide and a second one striking below the bridge.

He asked reporters "to pray with us that the fire does not reflash" and that the ship docks safely in Bahrain.

Meanwhile at Mayport Naval Station, Florida, navy officers began the somber task Monday of notifying the families of the 37 sailors killed on the Stark.

The military did not publicly disclose the names of the sailors killed or the wounded in the attack.

"Everybody is hurting," navy chaplain Bill Perry said at the Stark's home base outside Jacksonville. "There's a lot of pain, a lot of sadness and a lot of head-shaking. ... If you wear the uniform you feel the pain."

Base Commander Capt. John Mitchell declined to say how many, if any, of the 85 Stark sailors who make their home in the Jacksonville area were killed in Sunday's attack. The Stark carried 200 crewmen.

"Until they (the families) hear something, everyone is a casual

ty." Capt. Mitchell told reporters. He said a team of 10 doctors, psychologists and other professionals arrived Monday to help families deal with the crisis.

Perry, who visited the families of several Stark crewmen after Sunday's attack and talked to sailors at the base, said the time before families were told the names of the dead and injured was the most difficult part.

That time was especially hard for two wives of crew members, who did not know their husbands fate on the Stark, said Su Ferguson, director of service to military families and veterans at the Jacksonville Red Cross.

One of the two gave birth Monday to a healthy girl in Jacksonville, said Ms. Ferguson, and the Red Cross sent a message with the news to the ship. Another crewman's wife was getting ready to deliver, she added.

Mayport is home to 35 ships, including the aircraft carriers USS Forrestal and USS Saratoga, which participated in the April 1986 bombing of Libya. The naval station also has an airbase, home for four helicopter squadrons manned by 40 crew members.

About 18,000 naval personnel work on the palm tree-lined base, which with Jacksonville Naval Air Station and Cecil Field Naval Air Station employ a total of 39,000 people.

## Congress wants administration to heed war power resolution

WASHINGTON (R) — Congressmen concerned over the Gulf missile attack said they want to ensure the administration abides by the war powers resolution, which gives Congress a say in placing U.S. servicemen in war zones.

The resolution, approved over the veto of President Richard Nixon in 1973 in response to the undeclared and divisive Vietnam war, gives Congress a greater role in placing U.S. troops are put in hostile situations.

Among the many provisions is one that could force troops to be withdrawn from hostile areas unless Congress approves continued involvement.

"One may argue that it (the Gulf attack) might be covered by the war powers terms, technically," the speaker of the House of Representatives, Jim Wright told reporters, referring to the Iraqi missile attack on the guided-missile frigate USS Stark off Bahrain.

"I think the United States must discover what happened and who did it and get satisfactory assurances from that party," the Democrat also said Monday.

The House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Europe and the Middle East said it would hold hearings into the attack on the Stark.

The chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Sen. Claiborne Pell, a Rhode Island Democrat, said, "this demonstrates the absolute urgency of bringing about an end to this conflict (Iran-Iraq war)."

"It also shows that we must proceed very carefully with regard to putting our ships and their crews in further jeopardy," Sen. Pell said.

He said his committee was working with the administration to get the facts of the case.

He said he wanted to know how the requirements of the war powers resolution will be fulfilled.

"As a first step, it is up to the administration to inform the committee as to this involvement of U.S. forces," Sen. Pell said.

The Senate Armed Services Committee will also conduct a full review of the incident, Senator Carl Levin, a Michigan Democrat and member of the committee said.

Sen. Levin said he has urged the State Department to seek reparations for the loss of American lives although "nothing could compensate the families of those killed aboard the Stark for their tragic loss."

Congressman Charles Bennett, a Florida Democrat and senior member of the House Armed Services Committee, said, "it could be you know that it isn't anybody's fault. People die in the armed services because they sacrifice for their country."

Republican Congressman Helen Bentley of Maryland, said, "I join with President Reagan also in thanking the countries of Saudi Arabia and Bahrain for their swift response to assist our crippled vessel and wounded crew members, probably reducing the loss of additional lives."

## U.S. to press case of 10 charged in arms plot

NEW YORK (AP) — Government prosecutors have said they would not drop their year-old case against 10 men charged in a \$2.2-billion Iran arms smuggling scheme.

Earlier, prosecutors had asked for delays after it was disclosed that President Ronald Reagan's administration authorised arms sales to Iran. Washington investigators probed whether some of the money had been diverted to the contra rebels fighting Nicaragua's government.

But Assistant U.S. Attorney Lorna Schofield told U.S. district Judge Leonard B. Sand on Monday that the government did not need more time, although "various investigations are continuing" into the Iran-contra affair "and facts are emerging daily."

## Arabs, Jews praise U.S. court ruling on civil rights

NEW YORK (AP) — Jewish and Arab groups were united in bailing a U.S. supreme court ruling which extended broad civil-rights protections to the two ethnic groups.

The unanimous ruling, issued Monday in two cases, held that U.S. civil-rights laws originally aimed at preventing and redressing discrimination against blacks were just as applicable to other groups victimised by discrimination.

Sam Rabino, legal director of the American Jewish Committee, said his organisation was "overjoyed" with the ruling.

He said there had been little difficulty in Arabs and Jewish groups joining together in support of the two cases.

Several attorneys predicted the decision would prompt many other civil-rights suits by members of ethnic groups not accustomed to considering themselves eligible for such relief.

The key element is that it sends a message, that perpetrators of vandalism or discriminatory conduct will feel an impact where it hurts the most: in the pocketbook," said Jeffrey Sinsheim, legal director of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith.

"We're extremely pleased," said Albert Mokhiber, director of legal services for the American

Arab Anti-discrimination Committee. "With the rise in hatred and violence that has victimised both Arabs and Jews, we desperately need this kind of protection."

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"We're extremely pleased," said Albert Mokhiber, director of legal services for the American

Arab Anti-discrimination Committee. "With the rise in hatred and violence that has victimised both Arabs and Jews, we desperately need this kind of protection."

Sam Rabino, legal director of the American Jewish Committee, said his organisation was "overjoyed" with the ruling.

He said there had been little difficulty in Arabs and Jewish groups joining together in support of the two cases.

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## Algerian premier arrives in Jeddah

JEDDAH (R) —

## Dajani approves statutes of business association

Interior Rajai Dajani Tuesday announced his approval of by-laws and statutes of the Jordanian Businessmen Association (JBA).

The JBA has been established with the purpose of creating a suitable climate for the private sector to enable it to play its pioneering role in stimulating the national economy, according to the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

The JBA was established in 1985 and at present has a membership of more than 50 leading businessmen in the country, according to Mr. Abu Hassan, chairman of the JBA.

He said that the presidents of the chambers of commerce and industry are both JBA members and the statute approved by the minister was in fact an amended version of statutes that have existed since 1985.

The JBA is working to help promote economic and social in-

sitions in the country and assist companies and individuals in promoting the private sector's activities, according to Petra.

The statute authorizes the JBA to form a joint council with similar bodies in Arab and foreign countries with the purpose of promoting trade and investment relations among various countries through businessmen and their associations, the news agency said.

Every businessman in Jordan has the right to apply for the JBA membership provided he is above 30 years of age and enjoys qualifications and good reputation that make him eligible for such membership.

Mr. Abu Hassan on Tuesday held meetings with the presidents of Amman chambers of commerce and industry to review scopes of cooperation between them and the JBA.

## Khayyat in Morocco for seminars on religion

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat Tuesday left for Casablanca to take part in a series of seminars and lectures being held during the holy month of Ramadan.

The seminars and lectures are being held in the city of Casablanca under the patronage of King Hassan II of Morocco and are being attended by senior Islamic ulema and leaders.

Dr. Khayyat is expected to deliver a lecture and meet with religious leaders from Morocco to discuss means of bolstering Jordanian-Moroccan cooperation in religious affairs.

## 7th children's conference gets under way July 2.

AMMAN (Petra) — The Seventh Arab Children's Conference is to open in Jordan on July 2, 1987 with delegations from various Arab countries taking part in the events and activities, according to an announcement made Tuesday by the Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF) which organizes the annual event.

This year's event will be the seventh in a row, and the NHF has extended invitations to Arab states to send four children, between the ages of 10 and 13, to take part in the activities which were initiated by Her Majesty Queen Noor in 1979, according to a NHF spokesman.

To prepare for the event NHF Director General, Mrs. Iman Al Muhi, Tuesday chaired a meeting of a preparatory committee to review the activities to be carried out during this year's six-day conference.

The preparatory committee has set up a working team and two subcommittees to supervise the children's activities during the conference.

## Egypt urges positive U.S. stand

(Continued from page 1)

"abandon" to PLO, Dr. Baz said: "Egypt cannot act alone. If the PLO does not reach agreement with Jordan on a new formula then they will be missing the last wagon on the last train."

Dr. Baz added: "If the PLO does not get its act together with Jordan, we have to sit down and see what options remain available. We are not going to sit down and watch the peace process come down and he de-molished."

Dr. Baz said a Tunis statement on Monday, in which the PLO Executive Committee announced plans to redefine relations with Cairo was a first step to redressing ties. But, he said, "this is not adequate yet."

If the peace process broke down, he said, Israel might consolidate its hold over the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"... This is a dreadful prospect that threatens both the Arabs and Israel and threatens U.S. interests in the Middle East," Dr. Baz said.

Before the PLO could be pressured into defining its position, Israel would first have to accept the concept of an international conference, over which its coalition government is divided, he said.

"The moment of truth will come as far as the PLO is concerned when Israel agrees and the U.S. puts its full weight behind the idea. Then it will be an Arab responsibility to come up with a Palestinian formula," Dr. Baz said.

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## Danger of the Gulf

THE missile attack against the U.S. frigate Stark Sunday, coming as did one day after a sea mine damaged the Soviet tanker Marshal Chukov, should awaken the superpowers from their deep slumber vis-a-vis the Iran-Iraq conflict. The war in the Gulf has been going on for almost seven years now with both Washington and Moscow paying only lip service to attempts aimed at ending it. Now that their immediate interests have been touched directly, it is only fair to expect that the two superpowers should exert more genuine and sincere efforts to bring peace and stability back to the Gulf area.

It is most unfortunate that such efforts by states, which have the means and influence to affect the course of the Gulf war, should come only after the immense suffering and loss of life by both Iraq and Iran and after the death and injury of so many Americans on board the U.S. ship.

In the context of the overriding issue of the continuous war between Iran and Iraq and the subsequent disruption to shipping and navigation in the Gulf, it matters little which warring party had fired on the U.S. frigate. By most reasonable accounts the U.S. navy ship, which was patrolling the Gulf in international waters, was attacked by mistake. Iraq at least would definitely avoid an intentional attack on the U.S. fleet at all costs.

Jordan together with the other Arab countries in the Middle East have been warning for years that the big powers should bring pressure to bear on the recalcitrant party, namely Iran, with a view to end the senseless Gulf war. The Arab countries have repeatedly warned and cautioned the permanent members of the United Nations Security Council that without their serious efforts the war would simply continue to grow, and engulf other countries. The permanent members of the Security Council and in particular the two superpowers are entrusted with the task and obligation to deal effectively with issues and situations that threaten world peace.

It is most comforting to hear President Ronald Reagan say that the attack on the U.S. frigate "underscores the need to bring the Iran-Iraq war to its prompt end," and that the U.S. and the rest of the international community "must redouble their efforts to hasten settlement that will preserve the sovereign and territorial integrity of both Iran and Iraq." We could not agree more with the president of the U.S., even though we wish he said his words seven years earlier.

## ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

### Al Ra'i: Rabin, Shultz agree

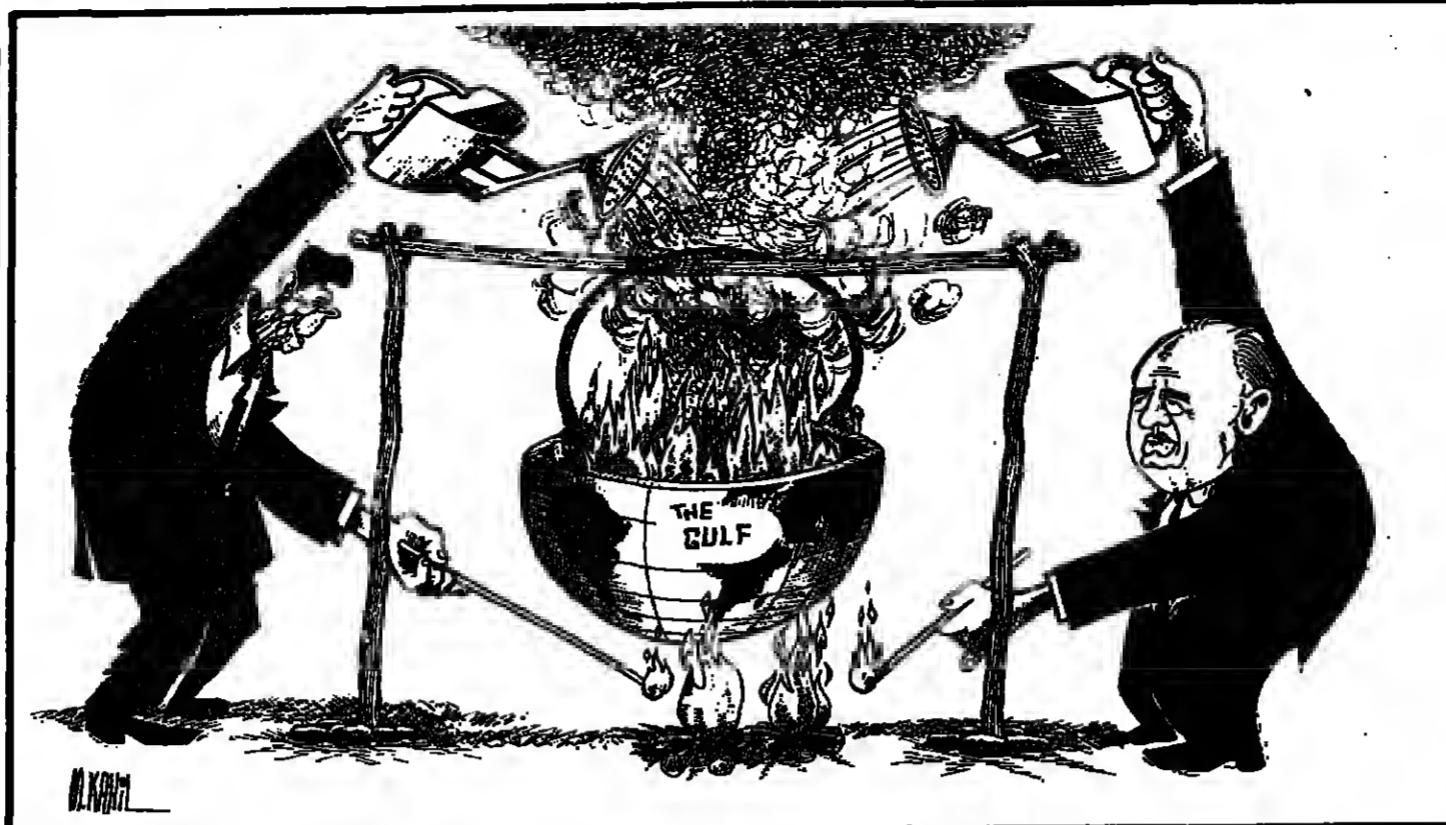
ISRAEL'S Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin and the U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz both made statements lately concerning their own concepts of peace and an international conference. Rabin, for his part, said that Israel should make a limited withdrawal of forces from Arab land occupied since 1967 but these forces should never give up the city of Jerusalem. Shultz for his part, ignored the question of withdrawal and only made mention of the so-called direct negotiations between the Arabs and Israel. He also made it clear that Washington would never take any step leading to the international conference before Israel had taken such a step, and that the U.S. would never contemplate such conference unless Israel had first endorsed it. Shultz did not refer to the implementation of U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, but said that the present two party coalition government in Israel should come to terms with regard to any peace negotiations. The United States had earlier announced that it regards the proposed conference as a mere ceremonial prelude leading to direct talks between the Israelis and the Arabs, and had explicitly showed its displeasure over the participation of the Soviet Union and European countries in such conference. What Israel and United States want and hope to achieve is a limited meeting in which they can impose their will on the Arabs. But an American-Israeli style of peace can never serve the purpose of stability, security and comprehensive peace that can guarantee the rights of the Palestinian people in their homeland.

### Al Dustour: Calling on superpowers

SUPERPOWER vessels and war ships were exposed to danger in the Gulf region over the past two days in a manner that calls for steps to be taken by the two powers and the world community towards ending war activity in the Gulf. These events and the loss of life underline that the world should act now to stop the bloodshed and prevent the Gulf conflict from spreading and endangering world peace. It is not important to identify the attackers on Soviet or American shipping in the Gulf as much as it is important to find means for ending the tragedy that has been affecting the Arab region and the whole world. The two superpowers which shoulder grave responsibility in maintaining world peace have both been disregarding the sufferings of the people in the Gulf region and have allowed the Iran-Iraq war to drag on for nearly seven years without undertaking serious measures to stop it. The serious events in the Gulf call for speedy action on the part of these superpowers and the whole international community to find a solution for the war and an end to the bloodshed. Their primary task should force Iran to stop its aggression on Arab land and end its threat to world peace and international shipping. The events of the past two days present a good chance for the world community to start taking serious steps for bringing peace to the Gulf.

### Sawt Al Shaab: Fuelling a war

WE wonder what the United States would do now following the attack on its frigate in the Gulf waters. Would it send in more war ships to deter future attacks and so openly interfere in the war or would it take steps towards peace? We wonder what the Soviet Union would do after the attack on one of its vessels in the same area. We also wonder if Iran harbours plans for drawing the superpowers into the web of the conflict. Is what happening now connected in one way or another with the recent tour of the region by U.S. envoy Richard Murphy, and would the series of events lead towards a catastrophe for the whole Arab region? Iran for its part has been bent on implementing a policy preventing anybody from stopping the war because its rulers continue to benefit from the status quo. For this reason, Teheran continues a drive to expand the war. The superpowers for their part have not yet taken meaningful steps leading to an end to hostilities in the Gulf.



## Learning from experience

*At a cafe sat some 'intellectuals'; the subject of discussion was elections.*

By Salim T. Abdo

AT a street-side cafe in Amman on Sunday evening sat several Jordanian "intellectuals" and parliamentary "hopefuls". Their subject of discussion was the voter registration process which had just ended that same evening. The discussion, which lasted well into Monday morning's hour, did not follow any particular pattern. It was overheard to go on something like this:

"Did you hear, there are rumours that the Ministry of Interior is thinking of asking all those who registered for voting to come back to their registration centres with two photographs in order to be issued 'voter registration cards'? Nobody can vote without these VR-ID's, they say. It is crazy. Not half of the registered citizens will bother to go back. There's no way some of them can afford it. Besides not all citizens even know where their names have been registered."

"You are totally right. The government cannot be serious about this. Not only because a large percentage of eligible voters do not actually know where their names have been registered, or because they would rather buy rice and sugar for their families with the cost of taking photographs and travelling back — or for the first time — to their registration centres, but because the logical alternative is there. Like they did in the parliamentary by-elections in 1984: Each registered voter, upon reporting to his centre of registration on election day, can present his ID and vote, if his or her name is on the lists."

"Actually I talked to the minister about this today. The government still has not made up its mind about the issue. And I don't think it's serious this business about 'voter registration' ID's. Such a project is so difficult if not impossible to carry out."

"I wish I could believe you on this. The record speaks for itself. Look at the other mistakes that have been made in the context of the registration process. Look at the flaws in the new electoral law of 1986. Even the government itself complains of that loophole whereby many Amman residents registered their names — or their names were registered for them — in other districts of the Kingdom. This is cheating — to register away from your place of work or residence — some ministers have said. Whose fault is it that we now have the weirdest patterns of voter registration in the whole world? Why couldn't the Civil Registration Department do its job of producing voter lists in precincts and save everybody the trouble of having to register in the first place, as if you did not exist."

"Nothing wrong, doctor, except that twenty, thirty years ago these chieftains swore allegiance to the political candidates. Very few of them would contest parliamentary seats with political leaders like Suleiman Nabulsi, Abdul Rahman Shqair and Abdul Halim Nimir. Jordan itself seems to have changed. That's all."

"We will have to wait and see what happens with those. It is too early to even say whether we will have elections this year. Now tell us what jokes the Egyptians cracked about their elections. I have not heard one about ours."

"We are not in elections yet, remember!"

than this. How come this is the first time in Jordan's history that voter registration is conducted before election dates have been announced? Throughout the fifties and sixties a royal decree would be issued fixing the dates for registration and elections simultaneously. It is only now that we have an incumbent government registering voters for an election that might not take place for another year or two.

"Incidentally, this is the biggest problem of all. I don't understand how a government, whose members — or at least a good number of them — are standing for election, can be entrusted with the task of registration. Can't the candidate members of parliament who are ministers use their influence to draw up registration patterns favourable to themselves? Isn't there a law prohibiting even the most junior of civil servants from keeping his job if he is standing for parliament? How come this important point was overlooked, I don't know."

"Listen, you are right. But the important thing remains that democracy is a process, and in order to reach true democracy, you've got to start somewhere. In three, four elections from now these shortcomings can and have to be overcome. For God's sake, let us have elections first, and then we will learn from our mistakes. This, in my opinion, is the only way."

"Fine, if you think like this. However, one has to look at the experience of others in order to be able to judge. I was in Egypt during their last parliamentary elections in April. The picture of electioneering was totally different from ours. There you had a lively campaign — a real political battle. Here, it seems, only tribal chieftains are battling it out. Where are the political parties, the political platforms, and the banners across the streets that are a story unto themselves?"

"Egypt, brother, is a different example. Altogether so. While it is true the Egyptians are novices in neo-democratic practices, their state nevertheless is 7,000 years old. We can't compare Jordan to them. Do you know that until decades ago in Britain, for instance, noblemen and feudalists used to buy their way into parliament? A thousand-pound bribe got you a membership in parliament. What the heck if our nouveau riche, the tribal chieftains, tried it on us now?"

"Nothing wrong, doctor, except that twenty, thirty years ago these chieftains swore allegiance to the political candidates. Very few of them would contest parliamentary seats with political leaders like Suleiman Nabulsi, Abdul Rahman Shqair and Abdul Halim Nimir. Jordan itself seems to have changed. That's all."

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## U.S. ships ordered to shoot back

(Continued from page 1)

scheduled budget hearing that two U.S.-supplied Saudi Arabian F-15s jets were scrambled by the air when the Iraqi jets were first spotted on Sunday by a Saudi AWACS (airborne warning and control system) plane manned by Americans.

Republican Senator Ted Stevens of Alaska said he understood the AWACS asked the Stark highlighted need to end the Gulf war but pledged to continue selling arms to Iraq.

Mr. Weinberger said that was contrary to his information. He said the F-15 pilots requested permission to approach the Iraqi planes, but Saudi ground controllers refused because the Iraqi jets did not appear to be threatening.

"That seems reasonable to us," Mr. Weinberger said. "This happens a number of times every

U.S. officials said the Stark's captain, Commander Glenn Brindel, may have been caught by surprise by an unexpected attack from planes of a friendly nation.

Mr. Weinberger said Commander Brindel had reported "all weapons operational" on Sunday morning before the attack.

There was explanation why the ship's rapid-fire "Phalanx" gun — capable of putting up a 3,000-rounds-a-minute curtain of anti-missile fire — had not been activated during the killer rocket's flight of up to 80 seconds.

Mr. Weinberger on Monday disputed an explanation from the Iraqi ambassador to the United States, Nizar Hamdoon. The envoy said Iraqi warplanes had targeted a suspected Iranian ship 20 nautical miles from the Stark. "I think he was aiming at that ship," Mr. Weinberger told the

ABC television network. "I think the real situation is he did not know it was an American ship. And that's why, as I've called it, it was a ghastly error on his part."

Iraqi warplanes hit another ship in the 40 to 60 nautical miles from the Stark earlier in the day and missed another one in roughly that same area. Mr. Weinberger said.

France said Sunday's attack on the Stark highlighted need to end the Gulf war but pledged to continue selling arms to Iraq.

"This drama shows that it is imperative to try to put an end to the war between Iran and Iraq, which is an absurd war," Foreign Minister Jean-Bernard Raimond said.

The frigate Stark was hit in the benthin area by a French-built Exocet missile, supplied by France.

Describing the attack as an error, Mr. Raimond said it would not alter France's policy of selling arms to Iraq, which has been at war with Iran for more than six years.

"Everyone knows that France has provided Iraq with military aid for a number of years. It will continue to do so normally in execution of its contracts with this country at war," he said in a radio interview.

In Moscow, a Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman called for a negotiated end to the Iran-Iraq war, and a reduction in the U.S. naval presence in the Gulf after the "tragic event" on Sunday.

"The (Arab) Gulf is so to say a concentration of all the difficulties brought about by military tensions and hostilities," spokesman Boris Pyadyshev told reporters at a briefing. "This is proved by the mishap with the Soviet tanker and by the tragic event

that happened to the American naval ship as a result of which dozens of lives were lost."

The attack was the deadliest in the Gulf since Iran and Iraq went to war in September 1980 and began attacking commercial ships in an effort to cripple each other's economies.

The Soviet Union, the United States, Britain and France have warships patrolling the Gulf to protect their merchant vessels.

The Stark had been on patrol to protect U.S. merchant vessels in the Gulf region.

The Soviet tanker Marshal Chukov, on its first trip to the Gulf under a lease agreement with Kuwait, struck a mine on Sunday and sustained damage to its bow. No casualties have been reported in that accident.

"We are for an immediate cessation of hostilities," Pyadyshev said, repeating Kremlin call for a negotiated settlement of the Gulf conflict.

Asked if the Soviet Union and the United States might meanwhile cooperate to safeguard merchant shipping in the Gulf, through which much of the world's oil flows, Pyadyshev said:

"A first step towards this would be a sharp decline in U.S. military activity and presence in the area, renunciation of support for those quarters that pursue aggression and real interest by the U.S. leadership in cooperation."

TASS news agency said U.S. naval patrols in the Gulf were an increasing menace to the whole Middle East region.

It also accused Washington of keeping the nearly seven-year Gulf war alive, in part through secret arms shipments to Iran, to satisfy its own strategic interests.

Mr. Reagan reaffirmed his commitment to ending the Iran-Iraq war and to halting the sale of arms to either nation. The interview with the independent Kuwait newspaper Al Qabas was conducted in Washington on May 12.

Mr. Reagan said the United States, which is officially neutral in the seven-year war, is working with other countries who "want to see this long, costly, destabilizing and tragic war brought to a negotiated end in the quickest time possible," the paper said.

"We... continue to work for a settlement that will preserve the sovereignty and territorial integrity of both Iran and Iraq," Mr. Reagan was quoted as saying.

"I have urged the international community, in the appropriate forums and through the appropriate mechanisms, to work for an immediate cease-fire, negotiations and withdrawal to borders."

The president was quoted as saying he would strongly support "effective action" by the United Nations in ending the war, but he did not elaborate.

According to the report, Mr. Reagan said Iran was the instigating party in the conflict, occupying Iraqi territory and trying to take more.

British defence chiefs have urgently reviewed manoeuvres of two frigates stationed in the Gulf following Sunday's attack, a ministry of defence spokesman said today.

The spokesman said they believed the Iraqi attack was a mistake.

Egypt, with close links to both Iraq and the United States, has deplored the missile attack as a possible threat to freedom of navigation in the waterway.

## West Germans unwilling to be counted in census

By Richard Williams

Reuter

BONN — A large number of West Germans, belying the national reputation for orderliness, seem unwilling to be counted in a controversial census planned for this month.

It will be the first census in West Germany since 1970, and follows seven years of legal and procedural battles.

Slogans calling on citizens to boycott the survey have appeared throughout the country, a leading magazine has explained how to avoid the census-taker and the headquarters of the Greens Party in Bonn has been raided to seize anti-census leaflets.

"Only sheep let themselves be counted," read the headlines on the leaflets, which were seized on the orders of the city's public prosecutor last month.

In the central city of Kassel police discovered 1,000 forged census forms, which they believe could have been part of a plan to sabotage the census. In another arsonists burnt down an office used by census officials.

The government, seeking to encourage public participation in the census on May 25, is spending 30 million marks (\$16.75 million) on the largest state-funded publicity campaign in West German history with nightly television advertising, posters, and leaflets.

"Census '87 — 10 minutes that can help us all," reads one poster. "Help us to help the chances of your children."

A government-commissioned opinion poll showed that up to seven per cent of the population would probably boycott the census despite risking fines of up to 10,000 marks (\$5,590) from their local authorities, who can fill in the forms for those who refuse to complete the census.

The survey showed three per cent of the 900 people questioned in the poll would definitely refuse to participate.

The government and the federal statistical office both say the census is necessary for social and economic planning, and even to find out exactly how many West Germans there actually are. Estimates put the population at more than 60 million...

Officials say it is especially important as two previous attempts to hold a such a survey

have failed.

The former left-liberal government of Helmut Schmidt failed in 1980 to hold a census because of a row with local authorities over who should pay for it.

Three years later, the courts blocked a census planned by Schmidt's conservative successor Helmut Kohl, forcing the government to draft legislation with increased safeguards for personal privacy.

The questions asked in the census forms may seem innocuous enough to a non-German.

One form asks about living conditions, the age and size of one's house, and whether it is rented or owner-occupied.

But opponents of the measure, led by the Greens, remain mistrustful of the government's motive in calling the census, despite official pledges that personal information will not be fed into police or other state data banks.

The government, seeking to encourage public participation in the census on May

## Myrdal influenced Third World

STOCKHOLM — Gunnar Myrdal, the Nobel Prize-winning Swedish economist and sociologist who died May 17 at the age of 88, left a deep mark on the history of race relations in America, the postwar development of the Third World and the birth of the welfare state in his native Sweden.

Myrdal, joint winner of the 1974 Nobel Economics Prize, began as a passionate believer in the possibilities of improving the human condition through social reform, but reality finally left him disillusioned.

"We grew towards the end of our life not having changed our basic ideas, but looking on the world as really going to hell in every possible respect," he said, speaking of himself and his late wife Alva, a joint winner of the 1982 Nobel Peace Prize.

International recognition came to Myrdal in 1944 when he published "An American Dilemma", a highly critical study of the conditions facing blacks in the United States, which soon became a standard work.

But he had first made his mark in a book written with his wife 10 years earlier, "Crisis in the Population Issue", in which they advanced revolutionary ideas about how to stem the decline in Sweden's birthrate.

As a result Myrdal was chosen to head a government commission on Sweden's population crisis, one of the many roles in which he helped shape modern Swedish society.

In old age, however, he came to repudiate the system he had helped to build and drew unfavourable comparisons between the politics of the present and those of the 1930s.

Karl Gunnar Myrdal was born on December 6, 1898, in the village of Skattungbyn, the son of a carpenter.

The formative influence on his early education came from the philosophers who inspired the French revolution.

"The (French 18th century) enlightenment philosophy was fundamentally optimistic — had things not come from nature, human beings were good and we could improve conditions through reforms," he told The Times of London.

Myrdal studied law at Stockholm University. On graduating in 1927, he studied abroad before returning to Sweden to lecture on political economy.

In 1935 he entered parliament as a Social Democratic deputy. He spent most of World War II in the United States, writing "an American dilemma", but returned in 1944.

After the war Myrdal was appointed minister of commerce.

He was forced to impose drastic import restrictions and rationing because of a domestic currency crisis in 1947, but he always rejected charges that his policies had caused the upheaval, blaming it on his cabinet colleagues.

Later in the year he resigned from the government to become executive secretary of the United

Nations Economic Commission for Europe, a post he kept until 1957.

In 1960, he was appointed professor of international economy at Stockholm University and from 1967 to 1973 served as chairman of the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute.

In 1974, he shared the Nobel Economics Prize with the Austrian-born Professor Friedrich von Hayek. The Swedish academy of sciences said he had been chosen largely because of his 1944 study of the plight of America's blacks.

Three years later, Myrdal caused a sensation when he called for the abolition of the Nobel Economics Prize after it was awarded to the American monetarist Milton Friedman.

In 1968 Myrdal published "Asian Drama: An Inquiry into the Poverty of Nations" which confirmed him as an expert in relations between the developed and developing countries.

In 1974, Gunnar Myrdal married Alva Reimer, who was to become one of Sweden's most distinguished women and serve as the world's first minister of disarmament. He often spoke of the deep happiness brought to him by his marriage, which ended with Alva's death in 1986.

But in an autobiography published in 1982, his son Jan painted a picture of family life which was far from idyllic and in which he accused his famous parents of cruelty. Reuter

## A great review of the dead

By Liu Haixiang

A recent exhibition of calligraphy and painting by China's contemporary late masters in Peking provides a chance for a great review of 109 deceased artists. A thorough study of them will be positive to the advancement of China's art in modern times. The peak of success reached by Chinese artists in this century is reflected in their 223 works on display.

SOME artists' careers show kick-off promise at an early age while others, such as Huang Qiyuan, are acclaimed only after they die. A master of traditional Chinese painting, especially good at mountains-and-water painting, Huang spent a lifetime as a poor, unknown artist.

In the spring of 1986, Huang's posthumous exhibit of scrolls of painting attracted wide attention from artists, critics and the viewing public. His paintings have been collected by China's National Art Gallery, and he has been described as "a lost pearl."

Again this spring, Huang along with 108 other established painters and calligraphers who died since the founding of New China in 1949, have drawn admiration from spectators. An exhibition of Calligraphy and Painting by China's Contemporary Late Masters has been held in the Painting Museum in Peking's Forbidden City. Displayed are 223 representative works, most of which have not been published, or shown before.

One of Huang Qiyuan's is a tableau, "Stony Mountain and Ragged Trees." On top of the precipice of a towering mountain are somber trees whispering into milky clouds. At the foot of the mountain, weather-beaten huts crouch beside a tumbling stream. The sense of undisturbed emptiness is intensified by black ink dots and brush lines covering the entire painting.

The wonder of painting lies between likeness and unlikeness with the object," Qi had said over and over again, an idea that has since become the doctrine of many contemporary Chinese painters.

"Too much likeness may result in vulgarism; too much unlikeness may be cheating the viewer."

Wu Zhaotu, chairman of the Chinese Artists' Association, acknowledging a Chinese standard of sensing a picture's charm, rather than trying to explain it in words, goes ahead to say, "This picture is a symphony of lines and colours. Each stroke is a dancing note, showing its strength and vigour. Huang deserves the title of master artist."

Born in 1914 in Nanchang county, Jiangxi province, Huang worked as a teenager apprentice in a shop that mounted paintings.

The job gave him an opportunity to copy ancient paintings and calligraphy. He quickly mastered the techniques of traditional ways of painting, and pursued the highest forms in his art throughout his life.

In addition to these specific threats, and the over-fishing and

pollution of the oceans, the report also deals with the more general danger resulting from increased accumulations of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere and the destruction of atmospheric ozone by aerosol sprays.

— Financial Times feature.

Our Common Future, by the World Commission on Environment and Development (Oxford University Press).

"Huang Qiyuan was an artist of excellent character and his paintings show an outstanding quality," says Pan Jiezi, a critic. "His work belongs to his own times, as well as to our modern times."

But Huang died unnoticed in 1979. It was not until 1985 that he was posthumously admitted to the Jiangxi branch of the Chinese Artists' Association. Huang is a rare exception among the 100 great artists in the current show.

Nearly all the other artists enjoyed glorious fame when they were alive, extending on beyond their deaths. Their names have become as eternal as their art.

Qi Baishi (1861-1957), the dozen of Chinese painters in this century, is usually first in any review of China's fine arts of this period. The organisers of this exhibition chose seven of Qi's paintings for display.

Qi Baishi is an undisputed expert of flower-and-bird painting, another distinguished division of traditional Chinese painting. A viewer standing in front of Qi's "Chickens under a Bajiao Banana," can almost hear the lovely cackling barnyard fowl, and hardly resist the temptation to touch them. The artist is best-known for his Chinese ink and wash representation of shrimp.

The wonder of painting lies between likeness and unlikeness with the object," Qi had said over and over again, an idea that has since become the doctrine of many contemporary Chinese painters.

"Too much likeness may result in vulgarism; too much unlikeness may be cheating the viewer."

Li Keran, 80, one of Qi's former disciples who is also an advisor of the exhibition, says, "The semi-transparent shrimps and crabs Qi Baishi painted seem to be more lively than living ones. His keen observation brought out the simplicity and order of the picture."

Qi Baishi was born in 1861 of a poor family in Xiangtan county, Hunan province. He was a carpenter when young, without formal schooling. Through his own tenacious efforts, he acquired a profound knowledge of

the world. When he died, at the age of 96, Qi left a rich legacy in the arts, best incorporated in the flowers and birds he painted. They were the symbol of the painter's inner longings for a peaceful natural life.

Qi was a hard-working painter. To avoid meaningless interruptions and time-killing social activities, he once posted an announcement on his door: "Qi Baishi is dead!"

Very much alive, he said in reviewing his art career, "I do best in poetry, seal-engraving the second, calligraphy the third and painting the fourth." Chinese art critics say that every item on the paper — painting, calligraphy and seal — becomes an inseparable part of Qi's masterpieces.

According to the usual practice of Chinese painters, Qi wrote some lines of poetry and affixed his seal to his painting.

While Qi strived for perfection in flower-and-bird painting, Jiang Zhaote, another painter represented in the show, spent all his life in figure painting. He died last year at the age of 82. Jiang had formed a style of his own which is easily recognisable.

Jiang Zhaote's paintings are exquisite and true to life," says Fan Zeng, a middle-aged painter and a former student of Jiang. "He painted the face of a figure very minutely while he painted only some bold strokes for the figure's clothes."

Figure painting in traditional Chinese ink and wash is difficult because each stroke must stand; it cannot be erased or improved. Lian Kai and Shi Ke, two painters of the Song Dynasty (960-1279), masters of this art, inspired figure-painters over the years. Their philosophy of "painting the appearance to depict the spirit" has been practised by generations of painters, including Jiang Zhaote.

One of Jiang's contemporaries, Xu Beihong (1891-1953) had complained of the lack of figures and people's activities in Chinese painting. Jiang answered that complaint with "A Portrait of Refugees," a gigantic painting two metres high and 27 metres wide, portraying the different images of around 100 refugees. Painted in the 40s, the picture depicts the suffering of Chinese people under the Japanese invasion.

On display in the exhibition is Jiang's large portrait of Cao Cao, king of Wei during the Period of Three Kingdoms (220-265). The painter drew a vivid and lively portrait, according to historical



"Stony Mountain and Ragged Trees" by Huang Qiyuan shows the strength and vigour of traditional Chinese painting.

descriptions of the ancient political and strategists.

"Guo Moruo has something particular in his layout and writing of a piece of calligraphy," says Cao, one of the organisers of the exhibition. "He was especially good at a running hand. His strokes are elegant and unrestrained, like the wind."

Artis Yu Feng, a professor of painting, praises the exhibition of calligraphy and painting by China's contemporary late masters.

She says they show their solid foundation of skills and their ingenious composition. "Some young painters who admire Western modernism in art have questioned if there is a developing tradition of art in recent decades. The exhibition provides a convincing answer," she says.

Show organiser Li Cao told reporters: "The exhibition sponsored by the Ministry of Culture roughly shows the course of development and the path ... to reach these Chinese artists ... reached. A thorough study of them will be positive to the advancement of our art in the future."

Though these artist are no longer living, their works have survived to be part of China's treasury of art. Their names, together with their creative work, will be remembered in history — China feature.

## Perils which threaten world

The world is under threat, a U.N.-sponsored body says. Poor soil is being over-used, felling of trees and excessive pumping of water destroy arable land, deserts spread and populations expand. Max Wilkinson reports on a call to conserve Earth's resources.

LONDON — Ever since Mathews' treatise on the growth of world population, predictions of global doom have had a poor track record, mainly because science has come up with so many surprises.

Medieval man, for example, would never have dreamt that the world could support its present population of nearly 5 billion and it may be that the 8.2 billion population that the United Nations expects in the year 2025 will be supported with "greater ease than most people now think."

Over-use of poor soils in hot countries, the felling of trees for fuel and for timber, exports and the excessive pumping of water from underground aquifers are all helping to destroy arable land and to encourage deserts to expand, the report says.

The loss of forests not only deprives future generations of wood supplies but can lead to climatic changes, flooding in lowland areas and general erosion of the soil. The commission estimates that 6 million hectares (2.4 million acres) a year of productive land is being turned into desert. In three decades, this would amount to an area the size of Saudi Arabia.

More than 11 million hectares

of forest are being destroyed each year, and over three decades this would amount to an area the size of India. The report says: "Much of this forest is converted to low-grade farm land unable to support the farmers who settle it."

It says that, during the 1970s, twice as many people suffered each year from natural disasters as during the 1960s, adding: "The disasters most directly associated with environmental and development mismanagement — droughts and floods — affected the most people and increased the most sharply..."

In the 1960s, about 19 million people were affected by drought annually compared with about 24 million in the 1970s.

The report says: "The results are not for the 1980s. But we have seen 35 million afflicted by drought in Africa alone."

In addition to these specific threats, and the over-fishing and

pollution of the oceans, the report also deals with the more general danger resulting from increased accumulations of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere and the destruction of atmospheric ozone by aerosol sprays.

— Financial Times feature.

Our Common Future, by the World Commission on Environment and Development (Oxford University Press).

Britain under Margaret Thatcher has been pursuing privatisation. One of the unforeseen side-effects of this course is that civil servants are quitting in a steady trickle to earn more money in the very industries they helped to privatisate. Hazel Duffy reports.

LONDON — "Better prospects, better pay," are the reasons why Mr. Zaki Douek has left the British government's Department of Transport for the private sector. A few weeks ago, he was managing the privatisation of the National Bus Company. Now he is working for another former civil servant, Mr. Michael Casey, founder of a public affairs consultancy which has been absorbed by the Saatchi and Saatchi advertising copy group.

Mr. Douek's knowledge of the government machine and negotiating experience will be vital in the job he is taking. Many other former civil servants, working in the City in particular, have found employers who value their

Whitehall experience. Many more still in the civil service are looking for ways out.

Undertakings to give some civil servants more money, in addition to the civil service pay award, were given by Mrs. Margaret Thatcher, prime minister, on April 23. They are partly the result of pressure from the cabinet office, responsible for civil service personnel management, and the treasury. Mr. Richard Luce, junior civil service minister, is also pressing hard for measures to encourage senior civil servants to stay.

There is scepticism that the aim will succeed. "In relation to the virtually automatic 50 per cent increase in salaries that they can

get outside, the amounts of money that the government is talking about seem to be much too small," says one senior civil servant.

From October 1, discretionary increments for staff in the two grades immediately below permanent secretary will become operational, following recommendations last year by the Top Salaries Review Body.

The top salary for grade 2 — taking into account the increase for this year — will be £45,000 (\$75,980). Civil servants will be eligible for three incremental bands, to be awarded on performance criteria, which could take them to a maximum of £54,000. Grade 3 civil servants, whose maximum is £36,000, could go up to £43,000.

Assessment of the individual's performance will be strict, in accordance with agreed guide-

lines. The extra money is "for the best performers in recognition of sustained high performance," said Mrs. Thatcher. Sceptics suspect that having qualified for the first increment, it will be well nigh impossible to get another.

A performance-related scheme for grades 4 to 7 is also to be drawn up. These are grades where morale is described as "pretty low." The government has said the scheme will take into account experience with the performance bonus experiment — an experiment deemed largely by those involved as divisive and inadequate.

As an interim measure while the scheme is being worked out, a performance increment for grade 5 employees, who have been on their scale maximum for at least a year, is proposed.

Pay is one factor. Prospects — or lack of them — are just as

important. Cuts in the upper reaches have been proportionately as severe as in the rest of the service. That means fewer promotion prospects, and longer waits for the next hike.

In addition, in departments such as transport, energy and industry, privatisation programmes have taken away chunks of responsibility, particularly from those in policy areas.

Privatisation has also proved a channel for outside jobs. Several senior civil servants have come into contact with the City in this way, and been offered jobs. Others have taken high level jobs in the very industries they helped to privatise.

Traditionally, the ministry of defence lost the highest numbers in the civil service to companies with which they had frequent contact.

— Financial Times feature.

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# French title-holders beaten in first tie

DUESSELDORF (R) — Defending champions France were beaten by Argentina in their opening tie at the \$750,000 World Team Tennis Cup on Tuesday.

In the day's other tie Australia were also unable to match their epic feat in winning last year's Davis Cup as they fell to Czechoslovakia.

France got off to a bad start when Thierry Tulasne lost 7-6, 6-2 to Argentina's veteran clay court expert Guillermo Vilas.

But worse was to come when Henri Leconte, who enjoys folk hero status at Dusseldorf's Rochus Club where the crowd adores his swashbuckling style and his clowning, lost 7-6, 7-6 to Martin Jaite.

Leconte, who has an impressive record in the annual eight-nation event, has only just returned to the circuit after a bad back injury and was rarely able to find his rhythm.

He held three set points in the first set at 6-5 when Jaite was 0-40 down on service but three mistakes cost him his chance and Jaite went on to take the tiebreak

7-5.

Jaite also got the best of a second set tiebreaker 7-2 to settle the tie before the doubles.

France must now win both their ties with the United States and Spain in the red group to have a chance of reaching Sunday's final.

Australia's Davis Cup hero Pat Cash had never met Milosav Mecir, the "Big Cat" from Czechoslovakia since they were juniors and he found the world number five's unusual style difficult to handle on clay, a surface Cash does not favour.

Cash won 6-4, 7-6 after saving six set points in the second set but made too many errors himself to be happy with his game.

"I just don't have my best feeling for the ball on clay at the moment," he said. "I haven't played much on clay this year. If I play like this I won't have much chance at the French Open."

## Dundee poised to make history

DUNDEE, Scotland (AP) — Dundee United bids to become the first Scottish team to lift the UEFA Cup when it takes on IFK Gothenburg of Sweden Wednesday night in the decisive second leg of the final.

Trailing 0-1 from the first game two weeks ago, Dundee goes into the decider still reeling from an upset defeat in last Saturday's Scottish cup final but fully aware that it may never have a better chance of winning one of Europe's three major club soccer tournaments.

"This chance go," said captain David Narey, whose side has knocked out Barcelona and Borussia Moenchengladbach on its way to surprise place in the final.

"Saturday's defeat (by St. Mirren) was a major disappointment but it is not the end of the world. The result will be completely forgotten by the time we run out to play Gothenburg."

"This is a European Final, the chance of a lifetime, and if that cannot stimulate us, nothing can."

United looked jaded and disjointed against St. Mirren, and fatigue could be its biggest problem against Gothenburg.

A goal behind, the Scots will be forced to attack from the start in an effort to overturn the deficit and, at the same time, prevent the Swedes from scoring.

But Narey is confident that the capacity 25,000 crowd at United's cramped, atmospheric tannadice

will be still reign."

Gothenburg should be at full strength, with the return of Roland Nilsson at right midfield, replacing Magnus Jobansson, who started in the first leg.

Nilsson has recovered from an operation on his right knee and from an infection that developed after the surgery four months ago.

Wednesday's game will be Dundee United's 6th of a grueling season and McLean, a strict disciplinarian, has had the awkward task of coaxing his players into the right frame despite his displeasure at Saturday's cup defeat.

"Several players feel well short of the standard we expect," he said. "But now is not the time to lambast them. The players are still clearly shattered. But we must simply lift ourselves for this last game."

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Performances 3:30, 5:10, 9:00, 10:45

Performances 3:30,

## LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion market on Tuesday.

One Sterling	1.6785/95	U.S. dollar	1.3390/95
One U.S. dollar	2.0087/97	Canadian dollar	1.7820/30
	1.4620/30	West German marks	2.0087/97
	36.91/94	Dutch guilders	1.4620/30
	5.9525/75	Swiss francs	36.91/94
	1291/1292	Belgian francs	5.9525/75
	140.15/25	French francs	1291/1292
	6.2330/2400	Italian lire	140.15/25
	6.6130/6200	Japanese yen	6.2330/2400
	6.6975/7025	Swedish crown	6.6130/6200
One ounce of gold	470.70/471.20	Norwegian crowns	6.6975/7025
		Danish crowns	
		U.S. dollars	

## LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Share prices improved on midsession values in late trading but lacked any incentive for further gains in an atmosphere dominated by political considerations following the publication of the Conservative and Labour Party manifestos. At 1413 GMT the FTSE 100 share index was 22.1 points up at 2,214.2, having touched a record high of 2,216.6 earlier.

Dealers said Tuesday's gains reflected a substantial injection of foreign funds. This was based initially on sterling's strength and backed up by continuing signs of improved U.K. corporate profitability, highlighted by improved dividend payments.

Tuesday's gains, which pushed the FTSE 100 share index further into record territory, also reflect expectations of a workable majority for the Conservative Party in the June 11 general election. Dealers said the advance was encouraging in the absence of definitive fresh news.

There was little reaction to a poll in the Today newspaper showing a narrowing of the Tory lead. It gave the Tories 41 per cent of the vote, Labour 33 per cent and the centrist alliance 24 per cent. A previous poll, for Marplan in the Guardian, gave the Tories 43 per cent, Labour 29 per cent and the Alliance 24 per cent.

## YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, MAY 20, 1987

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Analyze what your most imaginative and idealistic concepts are and then decide the best means to put them on a practical level. Tune into what is best for you.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) A quiet meeting with an expert who comprehends your wants can bring you advancement in the right way.

Taurus (Apr. 20 to May 20) Both a good friend and an outsider can assist you now. Try to get your personal affairs working better.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) If you work more efficiently you can add appreciably to your present benefits. Use your fine personality.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) You have a fine talent which can be made to operate best with the assistance of an expert.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Plan what is best to do so that your mate will not worry about security. Get an early start on business affairs.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Take an associate out to lunch and come to a better understanding. Put your ideas into operation.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Study your environment and know what it will cost to make it more to your liking. Enjoy more happiness tonight.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You can enjoy the type of recreation that most pleases you. Your mate has good ideas, so go along with them.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Today is very good for having guests come into your home. Avoid one who has an eye on your assets.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) It's a good day to solve any affairs with regular contacts, friends or relatives. Keep things running evenly.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Get advice from an expert so that you will know how to have a greater abundance from your activities.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 19) Find new avenues of expression that can increase your happiness. New friends can help you advance now.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he, or she, will have a fine understanding of life in general. One who could do very well in business or in artistic endeavors since there is the ability to handle details as well as the main thrust of the project at hand. This one will also understand others.

## THE Daily Crossword



Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

11 Declares	BLAINE	12 —tasse	BLAINE	13 Gr. letters	BLAINE	14 Premonition	BLAINE	15 King of cast.	BLAINE	16 — Honor	BLAINE	17 Redolence	BLAINE	18 — William	BLAINE	19 — Cen'ta	BLAINE	20 —	BLAINE	21 Doublet's lone	BLAINE	22 Royal bronze	BLAINE	23 Oxfives	BLAINE	24 Baden-Baden	BLAINE	25 Baden-Baden	BLAINE	26 — of course	BLAINE	27 Early	BLAINE	28 Northwest	BLAINE	29 Actor-Corda	BLAINE	30 —	BLAINE	31 —	BLAINE	32 —	BLAINE	33 —	BLAINE	34 —	BLAINE	35 —	BLAINE	36 —	BLAINE	37 —	BLAINE	38 —	BLAINE	39 —	BLAINE	40 —	BLAINE	41 —	BLAINE	42 —	BLAINE	43 —	BLAINE	44 —	BLAINE	45 —	BLAINE	46 —	BLAINE	47 —	BLAINE	48 —	BLAINE	49 —	BLAINE	50 —	BLAINE	51 —	BLAINE	52 —	BLAINE	53 —	BLAINE	54 —	BLAINE	55 —	BLAINE	56 —	BLAINE	57 —	BLAINE	58 —	BLAINE	59 —	BLAINE	60 —	BLAINE	61 —	BLAINE	62 —	BLAINE	63 —	BLAINE	64 —	BLAINE	65 —	BLAINE	66 —	BLAINE	67 —	BLAINE	68 —	BLAINE	69 —	BLAINE	70 —	BLAINE	71 —	BLAINE	72 —	BLAINE	73 —	BLAINE	74 —	BLAINE	75 —	BLAINE	76 —	BLAINE	77 —	BLAINE	78 —	BLAINE	79 —	BLAINE	80 —	BLAINE	81 —	BLAINE	82 —	BLAINE	83 —	BLAINE	84 —	BLAINE	85 —	BLAINE	86 —	BLAINE	87 —	BLAINE	88 —	BLAINE	89 —	BLAINE	90 —	BLAINE	91 —	BLAINE	92 —	BLAINE	93 —	BLAINE	94 —	BLAINE	95 —	BLAINE	96 —	BLAINE	97 —	BLAINE	98 —	BLAINE	99 —	BLAINE	100 —	BLAINE
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## U.S. factories' productivity sags

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The rate at which U.S. mines, factories and utilities operated sagged to 76.9 per cent of capacity in April, the lowest in nearly 3½ years, the Federal Reserve Board (Fed) reported Monday.

The decline from 79.3 per cent in March was one more sign of weaker performance by the U.S. economy.

The April figure, which is subject to revision, was the lowest capacity-use rate figure recorded by the Federal Reserve since December 1983, when plants were running at 78.3 per cent of capacity.

The major reason for last month's fall was a slump in the motor vehicle industry, where auto assembly plants were running at only 73.9 per cent of capacity compared with 81.2 per cent in March.

Manufacturing industries were operating at 79.5 per cent of capacity in April, compared with 80 per cent in March, as durables producers fell to 76 per cent from 76.7 per cent in March and non-durables dropped to 84.6 per cent of capacity from 84.9 per cent.

There were declines across a wide range of industries, including a fall to 69.6 per cent of capacity use in April for electrical machinery producers from 70.1 per cent in March and a decline to 88.7 per cent capacity for aerospace companies from 89.4 per cent in March.

The data showing weaker factory use comes amid mounting concern about the economy during the second quarter after a strong 4.3 per cent real rate of growth in gross national product (GNP) between January and March.

Revised GNP figures on total goods and services output for the first quarter are scheduled to be published Friday and some economists think they may show an even stronger quarterly gain because of big inventory buildups in the three months.

Speaking at a ceremony in the White House rose garden, where he presented awards for promotion of exports, President Reagan said: "We will continue to oppose any legislation that threatens to plunge us back into the despair of the 1930's."

But the stocks of unsold goods are casting a shadow over second-quarter prospects as industry cuts back output in order to reduce inventory. That could mean reduced employment opportunities later in the year.

The Fed said last week output from factories, mines and utilities fell by 0.4 per cent in April, an indication of sluggish economic growth.

The April figure, which is subject to revision, was the lowest capacity-use rate figure recorded by the Federal Reserve since December 1983, when plants were running at 78.3 per cent of capacity.

Producer prices, a measure of inflation at the wholesale level, rose by an alarming 0.7 per cent in April, the largest monthly rise since October 1985.

Share prices on Wall Street have fallen sharply in response to the negative economic news and were down more than 30 points at midday Monday.

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